

classical investigations were embodied in his reports, *e.g.* into diphtheria, diseases of the cotton famine, pulmonary diseases, &c. In 1862-63 an important inquiry was undertaken into dangerous industries, in 1863 a survey of the hospitals of the United Kingdom. In 1865-66 he had to establish the organisation to deal with cholera, in 1871 that to deal with the great epidemic of small-pox, and in 1870 he initiated a scheme for laboratory work in public health. He was an uncompromising opponent of the useless practice of quarantine.

Simon's resignation in 1876 was brought about by the Local Government Board Act of 1871 creating the Local Government Board. In Simon's opinion large questions of medical policy affecting the whole country could only be adequately dealt with by a Ministry of Health, a view which is widely held by the medical profession at present, and, having allowed time to see how the new Acts would work, he retired discouraged and disheartened. It is true that the Medical Officer of the Local Government Board and its staff now have duties and responsibilities far wider and more numerous than they were at the date of the creation of the Board, but still a great opportunity was missed. In 1890 he published his great work on "English Sanitary Institutions."

Simon numbered among his friends many of the greatest men of the nineteenth century—Darwin, Buckle, G. H. Lewes, Kingsley, Renan, Tennyson, Rossetti, Burne-Jones and many others. He was in 1878 president of the Royal College of Surgeons, and was the recipient of numerous other honours. He has gone to his rest honoured of all men, and his name will ever live in the annals of sanitary science.

R. T. HEWLETT.

#### A BANKER NATURALIST.

BY the sudden death of Mr. Henry Evans on July 23 the Midlands have lost a well-known and wealthy banker, and the West Highlands of Scotland an equally well-known deer-stalker, yachtsman and naturalist. Born in 1831, he was educated at Trinity College, Cambridge, graduated there, and was a member of the Senate of the University to the end of his life, coming up from time to time to record his vote on matters of importance. Early in his career he appears to have developed a love of natural history pursuits, for while an undergraduate he became an associate of the Ray Club, of which there are only six at a time, chosen on account of some proved zeal in these studies. He took at that time to entomology, and made a collection of British Lepidoptera. Even up to the end of his life, when he had long abandoned these early predilections, he was still proud of his insect cabinet, and especially of the numerous and fine specimens which it included of the now extinct English large copper butterfly. Being the youngest son of a banker, he naturally became a partner in his father's bank, that of Messrs. W. and S. Evans and Co., of Derby, and on its amalgamation with another firm he was made a director of the new company, Crompton Evans Union Bank. But though a shrewd and capable man of business, he never mingled in public affairs. The leisure of his younger years was largely given to rifle-shooting, in which he grew to be one of the best shots in the country. He competed at the Wimbledon meetings of the National Rifle Association until a lamentable accident occurred to him at one of the practices, when the rifle of a companion was unwittingly discharged against his leg. Three successive amputations were

necessitated, and he had to go up on crutches to receive a prize which he had won. This disaster, however, was not allowed to deprive him of his favourite sport. He had become an expert shot among the red deer of the Scottish forests and the seals of the coast of Connemara, and with indomitable courage he now availed himself of the help of a pony and continued his campaigns among the mountains with more success than ever. In one season he fired fifty-two shots and killed fifty deer. After renting various tracts of ground in the Highlands, he finally, in 1875, leased the forest which comprises the extensive mountain ground in the centre of the island of Jura. Choosing a tract of bare moorland that sloped down to the sea, he built there a comfortable mansion-house, surrounding it with trees and shrubs and flowers, covering it with roses, and ingeniously devising expedients that baffled the Atlantic blasts and enabled his vegetation to bloom and spread. This charming Highland retreat became his home for some months every season for nearly thirty years, and he lingered longer there as time went on until eventually he spent more than half of each year in Jura. But though deer-stalking was the original and predominant motive for these prolonged northern sojourns, he was far more than a mere sportsman. His early love of natural history pursuits found an ample field for development in his island home, but it was to the birds that he now gave his attention. Gifted with excellent eyesight, Mr. Evans was an acute and accurate observer. The rapidity and exactness of his recognition of birds on the wing were so remarkable that to friends who accompanied him it almost seemed as if he were the happy possessor of another sense beyond the number allotted to ordinary mortals. He made his mountains and moors in Jura a perfect paradise for wild birds. No gun or trap was ever allowed to be used against them, and everything was done that would induce them to frequent the district.

But it was not only in his own forest that Mr. Evans watched the habits of wild birds. He fitted out a steam yacht, the *Aster*, of 250 tons, on which he usually spent a month or two every year, cruising around the coasts and islands of the west and north of Scotland. He was thus able to gratify his passionate love of cliff scenery and his delight in the crowded breeding haunts of the northern sea-fowl. There are few precipices and inlets in the west and north of Scotland which he had not visited and about which he had not some natural history record to tell. He used to keep jottings of these observations. But he had no ambition to be an author. The retiring disposition which kept him from taking part in public affairs prevented him also from publishing any account of what he saw. All that he observed, however, was freely communicated to those whom it would interest. Some of his observations have thus been made generally known, but his numerous unpublished notes on the distribution of birds all over the west of Scotland would doubtless furnish valuable material to zoologists interested in this subject. Besides shooting his red deer in Jura, he studied them as a four-footed community living isolated under special conditions. He embodied his observations and statistics in a little pamphlet printed some years ago, but only for private distribution, and entitled "Jura Red Deer." Before surrendering his forest to the landlord he brought the records of deer-life up to the end of his tenancy and embodied them in an interleaved copy of the pamphlet. His experience had enabled him to gather together a good number of valuable facts. It is much to be desired that the completed pamphlet should be carefully revised by a competent editor and published as a

contribution to the discussion of the struggle for life among a single species on a small island.

Three years ago Mr. Evans was stricken down by what with most men would have been a fatal illness. But his strength of constitution and marvellous determination of character enabled him to recover sufficiently to be once more able to resume his voyaging in the *Aster*. Deer-stalking, however, with all its joys among the corries of Jura was no longer possible for him. Accordingly he gave up his deer-forest and purchased the beautiful estate of Ascog, in Bute, which he immediately set about to alter and improve. At the end of June last he started with a few friends on what proved to be his longest and last cruise. Under pleasant conditions of weather he visited all his favourite haunts—the cliffs of Mingulay and Barra Head, the sea-lochs of the chain of the Outer Hebrides, the precipices of St. Kilda with their vast swarms of sea-fowl, the fjords of western Sutherland, the cliffs and inlets of Orkney, and the voes and furthest islets of Shetland. In many of these places the *Aster* was a familiar visitor, and was received with blowing of horns and other signs of welcome. At St. Kilda the villagers ran up their flag, and half the population came out in a couple of boats to see their old friend and benefactor, who never failed to bring them some token of his thoughtful interest in their welfare. The cruise was successfully completed by the return of the yacht to Oban, but before the final day, which was to include the rounding of the Mull of Cantyre and the passage up the Firth of Clyde to Bute, it was resolved to anchor opposite the old Jura home and to spend there the following Sunday (July 24). Mr. Evans had been remarkably well all the voyage, and was delighted to have successfully accomplished all that he had wished to do. On reaching Jura he went ashore for a short walk along the coast-road. He had hardly landed, however, and was in the act of conversing with an old gamekeeper who had come down to greet him when he dropped dead as he sat. His retiring modesty kept him from making many friends, but his frank and kindly nature and his vein of quaint humour endeared him to the restricted circle that was privileged with his friendship. He will be mourned by many a lowly family in the west of Scotland that has good reason to remember his cheery greeting and his generous help. He has left a benefaction to the museum of Cambridge University, which has already been enriched by valuable contributions from him in his life-time.

A. G.

#### NOTES.

CAPTAIN ARTHUR MOSTYN FIELD, R.N., has been appointed successor to Rear-Admiral Sir W. J. L. Wharton, K.C.B., F.R.S., as hydrographer to the Navy, the retirement of Sir William Wharton having taken place on Monday last.

THE next annual meeting of the British Medical Association will take place in Leicester, the president-elect being Mr. G. C. Franklin, senior surgeon to the Leicester Infirmary. The council of the association will recommend that the meeting in 1906 be held in Toronto.

THE next session of the American Medical Association will take place from July 11 to 14, 1905, at Portland, Oregon, under the presidency of Dr. Louis S. McMurtry, of Louisville, Kentucky.

THE Board of Estimate of the City of New York has voted the sum of 2000*l.* towards an investigation by a com-

mission of medical experts as to the contagious nature or otherwise of pneumonia.

THE FitzPatrick lectures at the Royal College of Physicians for the present year will be delivered by Dr. J. Frank Payne on November 8 and 11, the titles being respectively " *Gilbertus Anglicus and Medicine in the Anglo-Norman Period*," and " *Ricardus Anglicus and the History of Anatomy in the Middle Ages*." The Bradshaw lecture will be delivered on November 15, the lecturer—Dr. F. F. Caiger—taking as his subject " *The Treatment of Enteric Fever*."

THE following lecture arrangements for 1905 have been made in connection with the Royal College of Physicians:—The Goulstonian lecturer will be Dr. W. C. Bosanquet; the Milroy, Dr. T. M. Legge; the Lumleian, Dr. W. H. Allchin; the Oliver Sharpey, Dr. L. E. Hill; the FitzPatrick, Dr. Norman Moore

AN American Society of Tropical Medicine has been started in Philadelphia. Dr. T. H. Fenton is the first president, and a number of men of science who have made researches in the prevention of tropical diseases have been elected honorary members. Among the latter we notice the names of Sir Patrick Manson, F.R.S., Dr. C. J. Martin, F.R.S., and Prof. R. Koch.

JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY is, it is reported, about to undertake systematic work on the subject of tuberculosis. Mr. Henry Phipps, of Pittsburg, has given the sum of 4000*l.*, by the help of which a dispensary building is to be erected so arranged that the treatment of patients may be attended to and the disease investigated.

A REUTER telegram published in the *Times* states that according to a private telegram published by the *Verdens Gang* from Finaes, in Finland, the captain of a vessel from Tromsö reports having found a bottle containing a letter sent off from M. André's Polar balloon expedition. The bottle, which was picked up on a small island north of Spitsbergen, contains a letter bearing a date in 1898. Particulars as to the contents of the letter will not be available for another month. A private telegram from Finaes published by the *Landsblad* says that the bottle was found on the island of Moffen, to the north of Spitsbergen.

A BOARD of Agriculture has recently been established in the Bahamas, and a botanic station is to be started in connection with it for which a curator will be required. Applications for the post should be made in the first instance to the Imperial Commissioner of Agriculture for the West Indies, Barbados.

THE Barker anatomical prize of thirty guineas has been awarded to Mr. Charles Coöper, a student in the Royal College of Surgeons, Dublin. The prize is offered annually, and is open to all students in any medical school in the United Kingdom. This is the fifth successive year the prize has been conferred on a student of a Dublin college.

THE St. Bartholomew's Hospital testimonial to Mr. Alfred Willett will, says the *Lancet*, take the form of a silver medal to be known as the " *Willett medal*," which will be awarded each year to the candidate obtaining the highest marks in operative surgery in the Brackenbury surgical scholarship. A gold medal of the same design will be presented to Mr. Willett.

THE death is announced of Prof. Simonds, formerly principal of the Royal Veterinary College, and consulting